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April 27, 2007

His Excellency Zhou Wenzhong  
Ambassador of the People's Republic of China  
Embassy of the People's Republic of China  
2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20008

Dear Mr. Ambassador:

I am writing in response to your letter regarding the on-going violence against the people of the Darfur region of Sudan and your concerns about its impact on the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games.

For the U.S. Congress and the American people the murder of hundreds of thousands of children, women and men in Darfur, the forced dislocation of millions, and the destruction of thousands of their villages represent genocide and crimes against humanity. The Government of Sudan is complicit in these acts and must be held accountable by the international community. This outcome requires collective action.

Respecting the sovereignty and territorial integrity of any government, including the Government of Sudan, is important, but this principal of international law does not grant license to a government to murder and displace millions of its own citizens. Tragically, an abdication of collective international leadership has allowed genocide and ethnic cleansing to be perpetuated, while the perpetrators of these crimes, including the Government of Sudan, continue to act with impunity. Countries that enjoy prosperous economic and trade relationships with Khartoum are not contributing to ending the violence, but are in fact fueling the ability of those responsible for the violence to continue these horrible crimes. It is time for the Government of Sudan to be isolated diplomatically and economically by all nations, including the U.S., China and the other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council. There can be no more delay to ending this genocide.

Mr. Ambassador, in hosting the 2008 Beijing Olympic Games the world's attention will be focused on your country. This will be an exciting and important event. But, it will be very difficult for the American people to enjoy the "spirit of the Olympic movement" if the world community has not collectively acted to end the genocide in Darfur and started the process towards peace and reconciliation. For the benefit of millions of people suffering in Darfur and in refugee camps in Chad, I have every expectation that our two governments will work together as partners and with urgency to achieve peace in Sudan. Achieving this outcome will be a tremendous success for the people of Sudan, China and the United States, allowing our citizens, and the entire world, to truly celebrate a common spirit of humanity.

Sincerely,



Betty McCollum  
Member of Congress

# Embassy of the People's Republic of China

2300 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20008

ZHOU WENZHONG

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary

Telephone: (202) 745-6764

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April 10, 2007

Dear Congresswoman Betty Mccollum,

I am writing to brief you on the latest efforts of the Chinese Government in pursuit of a peaceful and political solution of the Darfur issue in Sudan and reiterate China's consistent position on this issue. I am enclosing, for your information, a non-paper about China's position on this issue, its assistance to the Darfur region and contribution to what the international community has accomplished so far, and hope you will find it helpful.

As you will see from the non-paper, China has been working hard and making continuous efforts on the Darfur issue. However, due to lack of understanding of the positive and constructive role which China has been playing, some American media is subjecting China to unfair and groundless attacks. There are even talks about linking the Darfur issue with the Beijing Olympic Games in 2008 and boycotting this sports event. I am deeply worried that such rhetoric could risk misleading the public or, worse, diverting the public attention away from the real issue at stake. It will also be unhelpful to the international cooperation on the Darfur issue, including that between China and the United States. Furthermore, politicizing and calling for boycotting a sports event is against the trend of the times, let alone the universally recognized principles of sports being non-politics and the spirits of the Olympic movement.

Dear Congresswoman, I hope that you will fully recognize and appreciate China's positive role on the Darfur issue and use your influence to help the US Congress and public put things in perspective. I want to continue staying in touch with you on this important issue so as to make sure our two countries understand each other's positions and work together for a proper settlement to the Darfur issue.

Sincerely yours,



Zhou Wenzhong  
Ambassador